

At-A-Glance: Ages 10-12 Kings & Kingdoms Part 2: Judges - Esther Unit 7, Lesson 34

Gideon and the Fleece

Lesson Aim: To know God is really with us.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What is your favorite instrument?

GAME: Shrinking Army

THE WORSHIP THE KING WHO WATCHES OVER US

Read Worship Scripture: Judges 6:12.

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform King City Chronicles script or read storybook.

THE WORD GOD PROVES HE IS WITH GIDEON

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: Deborah leads the Israelites.

Today, we will hear how God sent Gideon to lead His people against the Midianites. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Judges 6:12-17, 36-40; 7:19-21. Find It First. Highlight Key Verse: Judges 6:12. Pray. Read.

THE WAY GOD IS WITH US

What did the Lord tell Gideon to do? (Save the Israelites from the Midianites.) Why did Gideon think he was not strong enough to battle the Midianites? (He was the smallest in his family, his family belonged to the weakest tribe of Israel.) Have you ever had to do something that seemed impossible to you? In times like that, why does it help to know God is really with you?

What did the angel of the Lord first say to Gideon? ("The Lord is with you, mighty warrior!") Gideon asked the angel, "If the Lord is with me, why has all this happened to us?" Gideon felt that by allowing the Midianites to take over their land, the Lord had left the Israelites. Have you ever asked God why He sometimes allows bad things to happen to us? This is a very difficult question only God can answer. We do know that in hard times God can strengthen us and bring us closer to Him. When Gideon asked these questions, the Lord answered, "Go in the strength I have given you. I will be with you."

God wants us to trust Him even when bad things happen. We can ask God to help us do that.

Gideon asked for proof God was with him. What did he ask for? (He asked God to send dew to wet the fleece but not the ground.) Display fabric that looks like sheep's wool. Fleece is sheep's wool. Have you ever been outside early in the morning when the ground is covered with dew? If you leave fleece on the ground outside overnight, what do you think will happen? (The ground and fleece will both be wet.) What happened to Gideon's fleece? (It was soaked, but the ground was dry.)

Gideon asked God to prove again that He was really there—this time to soak the ground with dew but keep the fleece dry. Was God angry with Gideon for asking a second time? (No.) Is God angry with us when we ask Him for something more than once? (No.) Do you remember a time when God showed He was with you?

What three unusual weapons did Gideon's 300 men use? (Trumpets, empty jars, and torches.) Why do you think the Midianites ran away when they heard 300 trumpets and loud crashes and saw 300 lights surrounding their camp? (They must have thought they were surrounded by a giant army.) How do you think this victory helped the Israelites know God was with them? (Without God, the Israelites would have lost because they were outnumbered by the Midianites.)

CHRIST CONNECTION:

All through history, God has shown us that He is with us. Jesus came and lived on the earth as a man to be with us and to save us. No matter what we face, God is with us. For all who believe in Jesus, nothing can separate us from His love. Reveal Romans 8:38-39. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Small piece of fleece
- W³ BETWEEN THE LINES Journal Entry #34
- OFFERING OF ART: Gideon's army with their trumpets and torches
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Cookies in Milk

CRAFT: "Give God the Glory" Mosaic

GAME: The Circle of Judges

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Watch Tag, Hot Potato Scramble

BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW